

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the pending application is respectfully requested on the basis of the following particulars:

In the drawings

The Examiner has objected to the drawings as failing to show the “twist shape” of the actuating plate as recited in claim 8. This objection is respectfully traversed for the following reason.

It is respectfully submitted that the “twist shape” of the actuating plate 323 is clearly shown in both Figure 3 and Figure 7. Therefore, withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

Revised Fig. 3 is shown in the “Replacement Sheets” of drawing appended herewith. Fig. 3 has been corrected to provide a reference numeral 344 in association with the reinforcing connection ring.

Objections to the specification and abstract

The specification and abstract are objected to because of informalities. The Examiner has noted several grammatical errors throughout the specification and within the abstract.

The specification and abstract have been amended to correct the errors identified by the Examiner, and to correct additional grammatical errors identified by the Applicant.

Claim objections

Claims 1 and 4 are objected to because of informalities. Claims 1 and 4 have been amended in this regard according to the Examiner’s suggestions. Specifically, claim 1 has been amended to change “the axial hole” to “the axial tube,” to read “such that” in the penultimate line, and to delete “almost” in the last line. Claim 4 has been

amended to replace "appropriated" with "appropriate." Withdrawal of the objection is therefore respectfully requested.

Rejection of claims 1, 2, and 5-7 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

Claims 1, 2, and 5-7 presently stand rejected as anticipated by Shen (U.S. 5,398,531) (hereafter Shen '531). This rejection is respectfully traversed for the following reasons.

Claim 1 is amended to more clearly describe the present invention. According to claim 1, an assembling structure for a door lock has a lever having a compartment and an engaging member formed in the compartment. An axial tube is inserted into the compartment of the lever, the axial tube having a longitudinal slot and a transverse retaining recess formed therein such that the longitudinal slot is connected with the transverse retaining recess.

An adapter, having a positioning member, is combined with an end of the axial tube such that 1) the positioning member of the adapter is engaged in and confined within the transverse retaining recess of the axial tube (via the longitudinal slot) and the engaging member of the lever, once the lock assembly is assembled, is engaged with the longitudinal slot of the axial tube and further engaged with the positioning member of the adapter so that the positioning member of the adapter is retained in the transverse retaining recess.

It is respectfully submitted that Shen '531 does not anticipate claim 1 of the present application because Shen '531 fails to disclose or suggest each and every element, and the arrangement of elements, required by claim 1.

"A claim is anticipated *only if each and every element* as set forth in the claim is found, either expressly or inherently described, in a single prior art reference." *Verdegaal Bros. v. Union Oil Co. of California*, 814 F.2d 628, 631, 2 USPQ2d 1051, 1053 (Fed. Cir. 1987). "The identical invention must be shown in as complete detail as is contained in the ... claim." *Richardson v. Suzuki Motor Co.*, 868 F.2d 1226, 1236, 9 USPQ2d 1913, 1920 (Fed. Cir. 1989). The *elements must be arranged as required by the claim*. *In re Bond*, 910 F.2d 831, 15 USPQ2d 1566 (Fed. Cir. 1990).

Shen '531 discloses an axial tube 10 having two separate slots 13 and 15 for receiving a C-shaped tubular core retainer 20 and an engaging portion 43 of a lever respectively. It is important to note that the two separate slots are not connected to each other.

In assembly of the Shen '531 lock, the C-shaped tubular core retainer 20 can be disengaged because there is no limiting member positioned to retain the tubular core retainer 20 in the slot 13 of the axial tube 10.

As claimed in the present invention, according to claim 1, the engaging member within the compartment of the lever engages with longitudinal slot of the axial tube, blocking the transverse retaining recess so that the positioning member of the adapter is held in place within the transverse retaining recess.

It is respectfully submitted that, because Shen '531 fails to disclose or suggest each and every limitation arranged as required by claim 1, Shen '531 does not anticipate claim 1 of the present application. It is therefore submitted that claim 1 is allowable over the cited references. Because independent claim 1 is allowable over the cited references, it is respectfully submitted that all of the dependent claims 2-8 are also allowable.

Regarding dependent claim 7 particularly, claim 7 recites that the adapter includes a bottom portion reinforcing connection ring, which provides additional strength to the structure. It is respectfully submitted that Shen '531 is lacking this element.

Rejection of claims 3, 4, and 5 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 3, 4, and 8 presently stand rejected as obvious over Shen '531, in view of Chen et al (U.S. 6,109,080), Wu (U.S. 2004/0031300), and Duckwall (U.S. 6,012,311), respectively. These rejections are respectfully traversed for the following reasons.

It is respectfully submitted that claim 1 is allowable, as described above. Claims 3, 4, and 8 each depend from claim 1. It is respectfully submitted that neither Chen, nor Wu, nor Duckwall provide any teaching or suggestion that supplements the

deficiencies of Shen '531, as discussed above, regarding the required limitations of claim 1. Therefore, Chen, nor Wu, nor Duckwall, in combination with Shen '531, provide sufficient basis for rejection of claims 3, 4, and 8 as obvious because no combination of Shen with Chen, Wu, or Duckwall discloses or suggests each and every limitation required. Therefore, withdrawal of the rejections is respectfully requested.

Conclusion

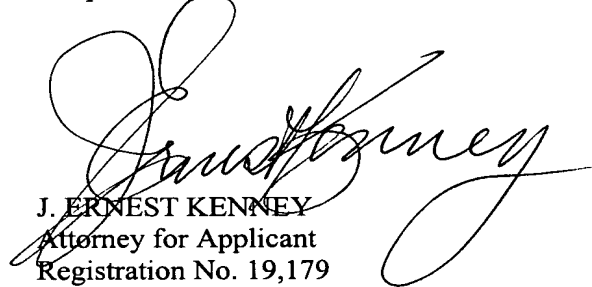
In view of the amendments to the claims, and in further view of the foregoing remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. Accordingly, it is requested that claims 1-8 be allowed and the application be passed to issue.

If any issues remain that may be resolved by a telephone or facsimile communication with the Applicant's attorney, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the numbers shown.

BACON & THOMAS, PLLC
625 Slaters Lane, Fourth Floor
Alexandria, Virginia 22314-1176
Phone: (703) 683-0500

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Respectfully submitted,



J. ERNEST KENNEY
Attorney for Applicant
Registration No. 19,179